

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

SYKES et al.

Atty. Ref.: **620-137**

Serial No. **Unknown**

Group:

National Phase of: **PCT/GB99/03267**

International Filing Date: **4 October 1999**

Filed: **March 29, 2001**

Examiner:

For: **SUSCEPTIBILITY LOCUS FOR OSTEOARTHRITIS**

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March 29, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 for identifying female individuals susceptible to osteoarthritis.

6. (Amended) A method for isolating genetic loci according to claim 4 in which open reading frames are identified within 500 Kb of D11S937.

13. (Amended) A method for determining individual susceptibility to osteoarthritis according to claim 10 in which the analysed region of genomic DNA comprises a polymorphic marker located within 20cM of DS11901.

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15. (Amended) A method for determining individual susceptibility to osteoarthritis according to claim 10 in which one or more of the following genomic regions is additionally analysed; a genomic region comprising the polymorphic marker D6S273 and a genomic region comprising the polymorphic marker DXS1068.

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

The above amendments are made to place the claims in a more traditional format.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



B. J. Sadoff

Reg. No. **36,663**

BJS:Imy

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100